

grievances 1, 2), 1696–1697 (elected to the 7th session), 1697/98–1700 (Accounts 1–4; Elections and Privileges 1), 1712–1714, 1716–1717 (died before the 3rd session). OTHER PROVINCIAL OFFICE: justice, Provincial Court, 1696–1707 (quorum, 1699–1707). LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Charles County, 1690–1696, 1710–1718 (quorum, 1694–1696, 1710–1718; president, 1710–1718); Port Tobacco Parish Vestry, Charles County, 1693–1696. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, 1690–1702; colonel, by 1705. STANDS ON PUBLIC/PRIVATE ISSUES: his support of the revolution of 1689 brought the first appointments to local offices; he was recommended for appointment to the Council in 1701/2, but he was never commissioned. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: over 1,256 acres; by 1698 he had acquired an additional 2,189 acres from the Mudd estate. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: will probated on April 30, 1718. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, £1,347.5.3 (including 21 slaves). LAND: 1,314 acres.

HOUSTON, ISAAC (?–1797). BORN: in Worcester County, of age by 1775. NATIVE: at least third generation. RESIDED: in Acquango Hundred, Worcester County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: James Houston (?–1761), of Worcester County; son of Joseph Houston. STEP-FATHER: William Lane, a Quaker. MOTHER: Mary (?–by 1773), widow of Levi Purnell (Purnall) (?–1751), of Worcester County. BROTHERS: *James Houston* (?–1809); John. STEPBROTHERS: Thomas Purnell; Levi Purnell. SISTER: Mary. STEPSISTER: Sarah Purnell. MARRIED by 1776 Mary, widow of Capt. Joshua Sturgis (?–1774). CHILDREN. SON: James, Jr. (?–1814), a lunatic. DAUGHTERS: Mary Dixon (?–1800), who died without progeny; Sarah, who married by 1799 William Quinton; and Amelia (ca. 1784–?). STEPDAUGHTER: Martha Purnell Sturgis. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican. SOCIAL STATUS AND ACTIVITIES: Esq., 1777; Gent., 1778. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: probably a planter; owned a mill; owned one-half interest in a sloop. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Worcester County, 1780–1781, 1789, 1793. LOCAL OFFICES: justice, Worcester County, commissioned 1777, 1778, and 1779 (did not qualify); justice, Orphans' Court, Worcester County, commissioned 1778 (did not qualify). MILITARY SERVICE: captain of a militia company in the Wicomico Battalion, Worcester County, commissioned 1777, resigned 1778; called colonel, by 1797. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: his wife's inheritance from her first

marriage was £636.5.4, 1776; assessed value £973.18.4, including ca. 23 slaves and 43 oz. plate, 1783. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: owned ca. 556 acres in Worcester County (more than 294 acres inherited from his father; 262 acres by purchase); he had control of 782 acres in Worcester County for the heirs of his wife's first husband. SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: owned 819 acres in Worcester County, including a mill lot and a water mill, 1783; purchased 222 acres, plus 1 tract of unspecified acreage in Worcester County between 1789 and 1793; controlled 782 acres in Worcester County until 1786. WEALTH AT DEATH. DIED: administration bond taken on July 15, 1797, in Worcester County. PERSONAL PROPERTY: TEV, \$4,730.64 current money (including 16 slaves and more than 9 books); FB, \$4,253.64. LAND: ca. 1,040 acres in Worcester County.

HOUSTON, JAMES (?–1809). BORN: in Worcester County, of age by 1782. NATIVE: at least third generation. RESIDED: in Acquango Hundred, Worcester County. FAMILY BACKGROUND. FATHER: James Houston (?–1761), of Worcester County, son of Joseph Houston. STEP-FATHER: William Lane, a Quaker. MOTHER: Mary (?–by 1773), widow of Levi Purnell (Purnall) (?–1751), of Worcester County. BROTHERS: *Isaac Houston* (?–1797); John. STEPBROTHERS: Thomas Purnell; Levi Purnell. SISTER: Mary. STEPSISTER: Sarah Purnell. MARRIED first, by 1791 Martha Purnell. MARRIED second, in 1806 Gertrude Parker. CHILDREN. SONS: Isaac; James. PRIVATE CAREER. EDUCATION: literate. RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION: Anglican, All Hallow's Parish, Worcester County. OCCUPATIONAL PROFILE: probably a planter. PUBLIC CAREER. LEGISLATIVE SERVICE: Lower House, Worcester County, 1788. LOCAL OFFICES: All Hallow's Parish Vestry, Worcester County, in office 1798; justice, Worcester County, 1799–at least 1800. MILITARY SERVICE: captain, Thirty-seventh Regiment, Worcester County Militia, commissioned 1794; major, Thirty-seventh Regiment, Worcester County Militia, commissioned 1796; lieutenant colonel, Thirty-seventh Regiment, Worcester County Militia, commissioned 1800; called colonel at death. WEALTH DURING LIFETIME. PERSONAL PROPERTY: 19 slaves, 1790. LAND AT FIRST ELECTION: 241 acres in Worcester County (121 acres inherited from his father's estate after his brother John died; 120 acres by purchase). SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN LAND BETWEEN FIRST ELECTION AND DEATH: sold 120 acres in Worcester County, 1791; pur-